

Chase LaSpisa

341 Schaeffer Hall | Iowa City, Iowa 52242 | claspisa@uiowa.edu | chaselaspisa.github.io

NATIONAL HONORS

Fulbright Grantee, 24-25 Fulbright U.S Study/Research Grant Award to Norway 2024-2025

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, **University of Iowa** May 2026 (expected)

Dissertation: “*Maritime Zones of Contention: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Resources on Maritime International Conflict and Cooperation*”

Committee: Sara Mitchell (chair), Brian Lai, Frederick Boehmke, Krista Wiegand

M.A. Political Science, **University of Iowa** December 2021

B.A. Political Science, **Oklahoma State University** May 2020

Minors: Economics & Russian Language and Literature

Summa Cum Laude & Honors College Degree

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

LaSpisa, Chase. 2025. “Dangerous Development: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Discovery and Production on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”. *International Interactions* 25 (1): 29-57. [\[Link\]](#)

LaSpisa, Chase and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2025. “Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict”. *Foreign Policy Analysis* 21 (2): 1-15. [\[Link\]](#)

WORKING PAPERS

LaSpisa, Chase. “The Oil-Repression Nexus: Oil Reliance and Government Incentives to Repress”

LaSpisa, Chase. The Impact of Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”

LaSpisa, Chase. “Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”

Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. “Protesting the Patriarchy: Public Gender Attitudes and Women’s Mobilization”

Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. “When it Rains, it Pours: The Effect of Natural Disasters on Low-Scale Social Conflict”

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Conflict and Political Violence, Maritime Conflict and Cooperation,
Environmental/Natural Resource Politics, Social Mobilization, Resource Curse

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Consultant, *UIowa Center for Social Science Innovation* Fall 2023-present

Research Assistant , <i>Cooperation in Civil Wars</i>	Fall 2023-Summer 2024
Editorial Assistant , <i>American Political Science Review</i>	Fall 2022-Summer 2023
Editorial Assistant , <i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i>	Spring 2021-Summer 2022
Research Assistant , <i>Issue Correlates of War</i>	Summer 2021

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Iowa Post-Comprehensive Fellowship , Declined	Spring 2024
Lynne Rienner Award for Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student, International Studies Association	Fall 2023
Delegate , Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop, University of Denver	Fall 2023
Best Seminar Paper , Departmental Award, University of Iowa	Fall 2022
Graduate College Recruitment Fellowship , University of Iowa	Spring 2020
NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates , University of North Texas	Summer 2019

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Distinct Impacts of Offshore Oil and Offshore Natural Gas on Maritime Conflict”
American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA. Fall 2024.
- “From Land to Sea: The Domestic Origins of Maritime Conflict over Fossil-Fuel Resources”
International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA. Spring 2024.
- “Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict” with Sara McLaughlin Mitchell
International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2023.
- “Maritime Zones of Contention: The Impact of Maritime Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Diplomatic Conflict”
European Political Science Association. Glasgow, Scotland. June 2023.
- “Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”
International Studies Association. Montréal, Québec, Canada. Spring 2023.
- “Fishing for Oil: The Effect of Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Reserves on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”
International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2022.

TEACHING INTERESTS

International Relations, Interstate Conflict, Civil Conflict, Foreign Policy, Conflict Management, Maritime International Relations, Social Mobilization, Natural Resource Politics, Research Design

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Primary Instructor International Conflict	Fall 2025
---	-----------

Workshop Instructor , Iowa Social Science Research Center	
Introduction to Stata	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
Introduction to Data Visualization using Stata	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
Graduate Teaching Assistant	
Introduction to American Foreign Policy (online)	Fall 2021-Fall 2022
Introduction to International Relations	Spring 2021
Introduction to American Foreign Policy	Fall 2020
Guest Lecturer	
International Conflict	Fall 2022
Mentorship , Department of Political Science	
Peer Mentor for Incoming Graduate Students	2021- Present
Undergraduate Research Assistant Mentor	Spring, Fall 2023
Mentored and managed two undergraduate research assistants on a project collecting longitude and latitude data on maritime disputes and taught them the basics of the research and data collection process.	

ACADEMIC SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

Reviewer , International Interactions	2024 - Present
At-large Board Member , International Studies Association-Midwest	2022 - 2024
Vice-President , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2021 - 2023
Student Union Rep. , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2020 - 2021

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International Studies Association
Bridging the Gap
American Political Science Association

ANALYTICAL & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: Stata, R, Tableau, QGIS, ArcGIS, Microsoft Office, SPSS, Qualtrics, and Python (basic)

REFERENCES

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell
Professor and Collegiate Fellow
University of Iowa
Sara-Mitchell@uiowa.edu

Brian Lai
Associate Professor
University of Iowa
Brian-Lai@uiowa.edu

Elizabeth Menninga
Associate Professor
University of Iowa
Elizabeth-Menninga@uiowa.edu